



When students in Topeka, Kansas ask why they should know about oceans they may never see, or wonder how an ocean half a world away may affect them, teachers need a ready answer that jump-starts the learning process.

70 percent of the Earth's surface is covered by saltwater.

More than half of the population of the United States lives and works within 100 kilometers of an ocean or Great Lake.

Oceans serve as crucial global highways, transporting cargo to and from world markets

The ocean floor contains some of the world's most important mineral, gas, and oil deposits.

One-fifth of the animal protein consumed by the world's population comes from the sea.

Fish and other marine organisms hold the key to many life saving drugs and vital medical treatments.

Earth's weather, from the expected to the exceptional, is generated by the ocean.

El Niño, a climate event produced by changes in ocean temperature, has influenced the price of fruits, vegetables, and grains all over the world.



NATIONAL MARINE  
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To understand weather, to heat our homes, to eat, and to discover new cures, we must continue to protect and study Earth's oceans. Oceans can be tools for teaching math, chemistry, biology, physics, and even history, business, and economics. As students see how the ocean plays a role in their everyday life, they will become stewards of this finite resource, and discoverers of ways to become more sustainable users.

The following list of teacher's conventions and resources can turn your classroom into a research vessel with links to teacher conventions, oceanic data, curricula, exercises, laboratories, and ongoing sea explorations.

**NASA SeaWiFS Project: Ocean Color from Space** . . . . .(301) 286-9428  
<http://seawifs.gsfc.nasa.gov/SEAWIFS.html>

**Smithsonian Ocean Planet Exhibition.** . . . . .(301) 286-9428  
[http://seawifs.gsfc.nasa.gov/ocean\\_planet.html](http://seawifs.gsfc.nasa.gov/ocean_planet.html)

**The JASON Project Expedition IX: Oceans of Earth and Beyond** . . . . .(781) 487-9995  
[www.jasonproject.org](http://www.jasonproject.org)

**Jet Propulsion Laboratory:Physical Oceanography Data**(818) 354-9890  
<http://podaac.jpl.nasa.gov>

**The Marine Science Institute Workshop.** . . . . .(650) 364-2760  
[www.sfbaymsi.org/teach.htm](http://www.sfbaymsi.org/teach.htm)

**Bigelow Laboratory for Ocean Sciences – Gaia Project.** . . . . .(207) 633-9600  
[www.bigelow.org](http://www.bigelow.org)

**Introduction to Atmospheric and Oceanographic Data.** . . . . .(303) 497-1361  
[www.cgd.ucar.edu:80/cas/tn404](http://www.cgd.ucar.edu:80/cas/tn404)

**International Oceanographic Foundation.** . . . . .(305) 361-4888  
[www.rsmas.miami.edu/iof](http://www.rsmas.miami.edu/iof)

**National Oceanographic Data Center** . . . . .(301) 713-3277  
[www.nodc.noaa.gov](http://www.nodc.noaa.gov)

**NSTA Water Education Publications.** . . . . .(800) 722-6782  
[www.nsta.org/pubs/](http://www.nsta.org/pubs/)

**1998 International Year of the Ocean.** . . . . .(888)4YOTO98  
[www.yoto.com](http://www.yoto.com)

For links to additional resources, visit [www.seaweb.org](http://www.seaweb.org)

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